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P 201933Z APR 07  
FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3307  
INFO RUEHAC/AMEMBASSY ASUNCION 6720  
RUEHBO/AMEMBASSY BOGOTA 4049  
RUEHBR/AMEMBASSY BRASILIA 7938  
RUEHB/AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES 5187  
RUEHCV/AMEMBASSY CARACAS 2417  
RUEHPE/AMEMBASSY LIMA 2543  
RUEHMD/AMEMBASSY MADRID 3428  
RUEHMN/AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO 4556  
RUEHQ/AMEMBASSY QUITO 5056  
RUEHSG/AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO 9639  
RUEHC/DEPT OF LABOR WASHINGTON DC  
RHMFIUU/HQ USSOUTHCOM MIAMI FL  
RUMIAAA/USCINCSO MIAMI FL  
RUEHUB/USINT HAVANA 0272  
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHINGTON DC  
RHEBAAA/DEPT OF ENERGY WASHINGTON DC  
RUCPDOC/DEPT OF COMMERCE WASHINGTON DC  
RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHINGTON DC

UNCLAS LA PAZ 001112

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STATE FOR WHA/AND  
TREASURY FOR SGOOCH  
ENERGY FOR CDAY AND SLADISLAW

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [PGOV](#) [ECON](#) [CASC](#) [EPET](#) [ENRG](#) [BL](#)

SUBJECT: CHACO SITUATION APRIL 20: NO VIOLENCE, BUT NO  
RESOLUTION

REF: A. LA PAZ 1086

[B.](#) LA PAZ 1103

Following two days of violence in the Chaco province of Tarija, the situation was calm on April 19, although the Chaco continued the strike and road blockades that it had begun on April 16.

- The GOB called a meeting of Tarija Prefect Mario Cossio and local leaders from the disputing provinces, Chaco and O'Conner, for 10:00 a.m. on April 20. Cossio and leaders from the Chaco refused the invitation and planned to hold a separate meeting in the Chaco. Thus, no resolution of the internal border dispute was achieved at the morning meeting. The GOB called a second meeting for April 23 at 10:00, in hopes of achieving participation from all sides of the dispute. Representatives of the Chaco told the press that they were unlikely to attend the April 23 meeting.

- Minister of Government Alfredo Rada reported to the press that the damage to Transredes' installations was almost USD 150,000. Minister of Development Planning Gabriel Loza reported that the taking of a pumping station in the Chaco on April 18 will reduce gas exports to Argentina from 5 million cubic meters per day to around 1.2 million cubic meters and to Brazil from 24.6 million cubic meters per day to 24. In a conversation with Econoff, Transredes confirmed that exports to Argentina would be reduced.

- The press reported on April 20 that, in addition to the one death April 17, four protesters were in critical condition from bullet wounds. The mayor of Villamontes, where the death occurred, dubbed the victim a "hero in defense of Chaqueno territory."

GOLDBERG